



3748

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Katayama, Goichi  
 Appl. No. : 09/870,619  
 Filed : May 31, 2001  
 For : VARIABLE VALVE TIMING  
 STRUCTURE FOR  
 OUTBOARD MOTOR  
 ENGINE  
 Examiner : Corrigan, Jaime W.

) Group Art Unit 3748

)  
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William H. Shreve, Reg. No. 35,678

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT **RECEIVED**

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Dear Sir:

In the restriction requirement mailed on October 29, 2002, the Examiner identified two species of the claimed invention: Species I (Figures 1-7) and Species II (Figure 8 and 9). Applicant respectfully notes that Figures 1-7 illustrate one arrangement of a variable valve timing system. Figures 8 and 9 illustrate a modified arrangement of the variable valve timing system of Figures 1-7 that includes a lubricant filter 300. Nevertheless, Applicant elects, without traverse Species II. Claims 13-16, 31-34 and 49-52 read on Species II, and Claims 1-12, 17-30, 35-48, 53 and 54 are generic to both species. Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON &amp; BEAR, LLP

Dated: Nov 25 2002By: William H. Shreve

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